

### **Virginia Cooperative Extension**

A partnership of Virginia Tech and Virginia State University www.ext.vt.edu



Culpeper County Unit 101 S West Street Culpeper VA 22701 540-727-3435

#### **4-H Youth Development**

Cristy Nibblins, Extension Agent, 4-H and JoAnna Kilby, Program Assistant, 4-H

Old man winter is gone for another year, and it's time

for some good old fashioned fun in the sun! We can't think of a better way to spend your summer than with 4-H. 4-H has been serving up summer fun since 1902, and we are still going strong! There are so many things to do in Culpeper 4-H during the summer. There are workshops, day camp and overnight camp. How's a kid to choose? Here's the best part: you don't have to... YOU CAN DO IT ALL IN 4-H!!! 4-H has so many opportunities to offer for a fun-filled and inexpensive summer that is sure to bring a smile to your face. Whether you're 5 years old or 18 years old there is something for children of all ages. Check out our website: <a href="www.ext.vt.edu/offices/culpeper">www.ext.vt.edu/offices/culpeper</a> for registration information on activities listed below.

#### 4-H SUMMER WORKSHOPS

There is something for everyone and every age from 5-18. These 4-H Workshops are a great way to spend a few hours a day and take home some treasures that you made during your summer off.

#### **Arrange It Your Way - Quilting Workshop**

June 27 – July 1 9am-12pm Ages: 9-18 Limit: 8
Location: Culpeper Extension Office Cost: SUPPLY LIST
This quilting workshop is for beginners or experts! Participants will leave

with a beautiful work of art to take home or enter in the Culpeper-Madison-Rappahannock Farm Show. The design possibilities will be many, giving each student the latitude to be creative after the basic blocks are sewn.

#### **Bike Rodeo**

July 7 & 8 9am-12pm Ages: 9-18 Limit: 10 Location: Yowell Meadow Park (Gardner's Street Side) Cost: FREE Tim Sisk from the Culpeper Town Police Department will be teaching bike safety and skill training. Build your knowledge of hand signals and signs as you embark on bike challenge courses and games. Please bring a bike and helmet, no training wheels permitted. Wear tennis shoes and bring bottled water.

#### **Leather Craft and Woodworking**

July 6 10am-2pm Ages 7-10 Limit: 15
Location: Culpeper Agricultural Enterprises (Rte 29S) Cost: \$20
Assemble, decorate and create a woodworking kit to meet your expectations.
If you enjoy working with your hands, don't you miss out. Learn the tricks of the trade to making embossed leather bookmarks, pouches and more in this fun and creative class. **Bring a packed lunch** 

#### The Floral Designer In You

July 14 & 15 9am-12pm Ages: 9-14 Limit: 10 Location: Culpeper Extension Office Cost: \$12 Learn how to enhance your creative abilities with a combination of floral creations. Participants will make arrangements from silk and fresh flowers and create hand-made potpourri. Each child will create a beautiful master-

piece to use as a keepsake, gift and/or a centerpiece.

Preserving Garden Fruits & Vegetables

July 18 & 199am-12pmAges: 9-18Limit: 8Location: Culpeper Extension OfficeCost: \$10

Yummy summer produce won't last all year unless properly preserved. This two-day workshop will teach you how to can and freeze fresh fruits and vegetables. Participants will take home canned and frozen items upon completion of the workshop. Bring your apron and come help make jellies and other goodies!

#### Horsing Around with the Rixeyville Riders 4-H Club

**July 19 – 22 9am-1pm** Ages: 6-12 Location: Beechwood Farm, Rixeyville, VA Cost: **\$125** Learn basic horsemanship skills, grooming, horse health information and beginning riding from one of our 4-H horse clubs. Activities include recreation, educational activities, crafts and special guests.

#### **Holly Jolly Christmas in July**

July 20-21 12pm-3pm Ages: 8-13 Limit: 10
Location: Culpeper Extension Office Cost: \$15
It's the most wonderful time of the year! Why not celebrate it twice, and what better way to celebrate than creating handmade Christmas decorations, gifts, cards and yummy treats! Come and join us for two holiday-filled days where you will craft and create wonderful items to enjoy and share with family, friends and yourself for many years to come.

#### \*\*\*CLOVERBUD DAY CAMP\*\*\*

We are gearing up for our third annual Cloverbud Day Camp, and this year will be the best year yet! With bigger and better additions to our classes, activities and games, our youngest 4-Hers will be more than ready for this year's adventures. This day camp is a fun-filled 4-day event that is guaranteed to please both parent and child. Each day has a theme and special events provided from organizations in the community, such as "Splish Splash" and "Bugged Out." Each day will be filled with arts and crafts, make your own snacks, group games, songs and character development. Each child will leave with a great first impression of 4-H. **Call for availability.** 

- Date: June 28-July 1, 2011
- Ages 5-8
- Cost: \$50
- Location: Culpeper Agricultural Enterprises on Rte 29

\*\*\*Please note: Registration opened in April for the Cloverbud Day Camp and 4-H Overnight Camp. They may be full at this time. Call to see if there is space available.\*\*\*



#### **Extension** (continued)

#### \*\*\*CULPEPER-SHENANDOAH-RAPPAHANNOCK 4-H CAMP\*\*\*

Finish up your summer with our 4-H overnight camp that will leave you

with tons of memories to hold you over until next year. With exciting classes such as rocketry, performing arts, swimming, horsemanship and so much more you will be wishing summer would never end. Afternoons are filled with recreation such as swimming, sports, games, movies and other group activities. With campfire every night, it's the perfect end to a perfect summer! Call for availability – registration opened in April; camp may be full.



- Date: July 31-August 4
- Camp is for boys and girls ages 9-13 (as of 09-30-11)
- Teens (ages 13-18 as of 01-01-11) may apply to be Camp Counselors or Counselors in Training.
- Located at the Northern Virginia 4-H Educational Center in Front Royal, Virginia.
- Cost is \$225 and includes lodging, 12 meals, a T-shirt, and all activities. A limited number of Scholarships, based on financial need, are available.



Find us under:

#### "Culpeper County 4-H"

For more information on 4-H activities or 4-H clubs please contact Cristy Nibblins, Extension Agent, 4-H (<u>Nibblins@vt.edu</u>) or JoAnna Kilby, Program Assistant, 4-H (<u>jlclark@vt.edu</u>) or at (540)727-3435.

#### **Adult FNP**

#### **Stretching your Food Dollars**

Brenda Watkevich, Adult FNP Program Assistant/Master Gardener Planning ahead is key to saving time and money. This means preparing a food budget, planning meals, and sticking to your plan. Using good strategies at home and at the store can help you save money. Some money saving tips:

- Don't shop when you are hungry.
- Buy store brands; they cost less.
- Buy the largest container of milk you can use by the date printed on the container.
- Save money by buying a block of cheese and slicing or grating it yourself.
- Cut up your own meat.
- Plan and grow your own garden To learn more about how you can stretch your food buying resources contact Brenda Watkevich Adult Family Nutrition Program Assistant/MG at Virginia Cooperative Extension (540)727-3435 x 348.



Community Garden 2010

## 4-H Family Nutrition Program (FNP) Local Elementary Students Get Healthy With 4-H FNP

Georgette Yates-Mosley, 4-H FNP Sr. Program Assistant
From the White House and beyond, the importance of proper diet and exercise continues to be one of the most prevalent topics of this generation. As a result, requests for programs like Virginia Cooperative Extension's Family Nutrition Program (FNP) are at an all-time high.

In an effort to manage the increased need for nutrition education, FNP has collaborated with several local elementary schools to implement these services. This year FNP lessons were taught in three out of the five qualifying elementary schools in Culpeper—Farmington, Sycamore Park and Yowell Elementary schools.



Franco Calabrese, Physical Education teacher at Farmington Elementary, took advantage of a grant opportunity FNP received to purchase The Organwise Guys curriculum kits for use by school personnel. The Organwise Guys curriculum which is correlated to the Virginia Standards of Learning (SOLs) is a science-based, nutrition curriculum that helps students from preschool through 5<sup>th</sup>

grade gain a better understanding of how food is processed in the body. Mr. Calabrese conducted the lessons with his physical education students, using the curriculum. As an incentive for participating and to encourage physical activity at home, each student at Farmington Elementary was awarded a free jump rope from FNP.

This year's kindergarten and first grade students at Sycamore Park completed a series of six lessons taught by Georgette Yates-Mosley, 4-H FNP Sr. Program Assistant and JoAnna Kilby, 4-H Program Assistant. Each week students were taught about the food groups on MyPyramid through the use of a literacy-based curriculum—LEAP. Each lesson concluded with an opportunity for each child to make and taste a healthy snack recipe. These students also received free jump ropes for participating in the program.

For the third straight year, Yowell Elementary students have been enrolled in FNP through their physical education class. On specified days, Jennifer Houck, Physical Education Teacher at Yowell, scheduled the 4-H FNP lessons during physical education. On these days students divided their physical edu-



cation time between Mrs. Mosley, where they were taught various nutrition concepts and given the opportunity to create and taste a healthy snack, and Mrs. Kilby, where they were given science-based lessons which coincided with the nutrition information. Yowell Elementary students enjoyed milking a simulated cow, creating milk ads, planting radish plants and various other activities during these lessons.

Through the cooperation of these schools and teachers, this year over 1100 Culpeper elementary students were exposed to fundamental nutrition concepts that research has proven to foster better diet and exercise habits.

If you are a person with a disability and desire any assistive devices, services, or other accommodations to participate in any of the above activities, please contact Virginia Cooperative Extension, Culpeper Office, at 540-727-3435 during business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, to discuss accommodations one week prior to this event.

#### **Extension** (continued)

#### Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR) World Food by Carl Stafford, Extension Agent, ANR

Readers know that food prices have gone up in the stores and may blame farmers for increasing prices. On the contrary, farmers have little control over food prices and generally take what the market offers. Food prices are rising because of an increasing standard of living in developing countries and because of limited food supplies. Simply put, when people make more money they eat better and begin to bid against each other for the food supply we have.

Here in the United States we spend less than 10% of our income on food, while in some foreign countries it takes 80% or more of household income to feed the average family. A small increase in their family budget makes food more affordable. The poorest families, be they here or in foreign countries, respond to growth in family income by consuming more calories as their intake is already at maintenance levels or below. With a minority of our income going to food, an increase in pay does not have the same effect here as it does in countries where most of the money is spent on food.

By most accounts the U.S. economy is growing at 2 or 3 %, while developing countries are growing at double that rate or higher, with reports of some having 6 to 9% growth. This growth results in people having more money to spend, and they are choosing to eat better. An increase in competition for a limited food supply increases farm commodity prices.

A growing world population, with an increasing standard of living, is competing for a limited supply of food. Not only are expanding incomes increasing food consumption in general, but there is an increase in the consumption of higher cost foods, animal products for the most part. Some poor families around the world now find themselves in the enviable position of eating meat twice as often, be it each week or each month. Bottom line, the days of cheap food could be over so long as developing countries continue to grow and experience higher incomes and an improving standard of living.

Another reality of higher food prices is the impact of supply. The national beef cowherd is at its lowest point in 50 years, primarily due to aging farmers retiring and unprofitable beef herds being sold. As the standard of living increases in other countries, people consume more meat, including beef. Mexico, South Korea and Japan are some of the world's largest buyers of U.S. beef. Coupled with a decrease in Australian beef exports, U.S. beef has become more valuable than ever before.

As we experience a new economy, expect world competition and food supply to influence prices, and as farm commodities respond to this market, so too will the cost of production.

#### Farm Business Management (FBM) Grazing Recycles Nutrients by Peter Callan, Extension Agent, FBM

Due to the dramatic rise in fertilizer prices over the past six months, producers are wondering how they can get the most bang for their buck, when they have limited funds for fertilizer and lime purchases. A current soil test removes the guesswork and prevents the producer from under or over-applying lime and fertilizer, either of which will decrease efficiency and profitability. Virginia Tech soil test laboratory recommendations are based on research conducted for Virginia soils and climate. Livestock producers can also further reduce fertilizer purchases by implementing rotational grazing systems on their farms.

Rotational grazing is a management-intensive system that concentrates ani-

mals within a relatively small area (paddock) for a short period of time e.g. 1-3 days for beef cattle. A pasture may be divided into multiple paddocks. The animals are then moved to another paddock while the other paddocks are allowed to recover and re-grow. Animals are moved according to a flexible schedule based on herd size, the amount of land available, quality of forages in the



paddock and forage consumption. (1) Continuous grazing is use of one pasture. The type of grazing system implemented on a farm has major implications regarding pasture fertility.

Missouri researchers estimated that grazing animals recycle 75-85% of forage nutrients consumed. An even distribution of manure throughout a paddock is required for productive plant and animal growth. Intensity of grazing rotations affects the manure coverage in paddocks. In a rotational grazing system there is an even distribution of manure because the animals are forced to consume forage in the paddock before being moved to another paddock. The Missouri researchers calculated that under continuous grazing practices, 27 years would be needed to obtain one manure pile per every square yard within a pas-

ture. Conversely, if the pasture were divided into paddocks and a two day rotation used: then two years would be needed to achieve an even distribution of manure within the paddock. The location of hay feeding areas will impact the distribution of nutrients within a field. Manure will be deposited near the feeding areas. Depending on weather conditions and the potential for creating mud and ruts in the pasture, feeding areas may be moved throughout the pasture to insure a more even distribution of nutrients. Whenever hay is baled, nutrients are removed from the field and exported to the feeding area. Kentucky researchers have estimated that a ton of grass hay (fescue, orchard grass) removes the following nutrients from the soil: 12 lbs. of phosphate and 50 lbs. of potash. If these nutrients are not replaced, soil reserves will be depleted over time. Consequently, there will be a reduction in crop yields. Soil testing determines the amount of fertilizer that needs to be applied to maintain hay yields.

Cooperative extension agents can assist producers in the design of rotational grazing systems for their farms. Virginia Tech livestock budgets have shown that the implementation of rotational grazing systems can maximize profitability for cow/calf producers. There are Virginia livestock producers who have increased net profits by \$200 per head due to the implementation of rotational grazing systems on their farms. Rotational grazing systems can maximize farm profitability by recycling nutrients, which result in a major reduction of purchased fertilizer inputs.

- $^{(1)}\,$  Bellows. B. 2001. Nutrient Cycling in Pastures. National Sustainable Agriculture Information Service.
- (2) Lory, J. and C. Roberts. 2000. Managing nutrients in pastures to improve profitability and water quality. In: G. J. Bishop-Hurley, S.A. Hamilton, and R. Kallenbach (eds.) Missouri Dairy Grazing Manual. Missouri University Extension. University of Missouri. Columbia, MO.
- $^{(3)}$  Smith, R. 2008. Soil Test Should Drive Fertilizer Decisions. Hay and Forage Grower.



#### Going Green in Culpeper

Mike and Marie are building their own house in Culpeper County. It is being constructed as an energy-efficient home for their retirement. They have been working with the Green Building Resource Center for about ten months on the design and site details for their non-standard construction

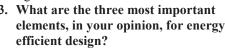
We, at the Green Building Resource Center, have enjoyed being a "resource" for Mike and Marie and look forward to helping others build more energy-efficient homes in Culpeper County. The following interview will give some insight into the process they have gone through thus far.

#### 1. Why did you decide on building your own home?

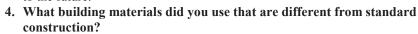
We plan to retire in Culpeper County and wanted to build a home that was going to fit our needs for retirement, plus leave a legacy for our children. Having looked at hundreds of pre-designed plans, there never seemed to be a plan that even came close to what we were looking for-small, energy efficient, easy to maintain, and

#### 2. Why did you choose to build a home that exceeds current energy code?

It just made sense. If every one of us strived for a net zero home, we would require less energy to heat and cool; it would be so good for our environment. Of course, net zero is hard to achieve in the middle of the woods, so going passive with Structural Insulated Panels (SIP) made sense to us for all the right reasons.



East wall going up We started thinking small, capitalizing on the natural features of the site and planning every element of the home with an eye to the future.



Many of the materials in our home are found in other homes as well, such as concrete, dimensional lumber, doors and windows, etc. Our walls and roof, however, are made from SIP (R21 and R41); our basement is precast concrete (Superior Walls at R12.5); we have very energy efficient windows; our vinyl board and batten siding is insulated (R2.6); and we have a standing seam metal roof. Our home is super tight, as all the openings are foamed, and we are installing an Energy Recovery Ventilator (ERV) to keep the air clean and fresh.

#### Why did you choose SIPs as opposed to standard framing for the walls?

They offer superior insulation value and less opportunity for air infiltration, along with very little waste and the flexibility to do some creative design work.

#### 6. How does building with SIPs differ from building with traditional walls?

The house went up fast... very fast. In fact, the entire roof went up in one 12-hour day, and we were under cover before we went to bed. The SIPs are delivered, stacked, and then assembled one at Roof panels being installed



a time, so the house goes up quickly. You can also have greater spans with few overhead beams, taller walls that are always true and square.

#### What difficulties have you encountered because of your choices to use nonstandard materials?

Planning ahead has been a challenge in lots of ways. We are determined to have as few penetrations as possible in the house, so avoiding outside walls for all kinds of things has been interesting. As



SIP's waiting to be raised

our walls are six inches thick, some of the finishing work will be challenging, too. There were some details we didn't think about, either, such as the ventilation for the cold roof (i.e., a ventilated roof on top of the SIP roof), and some site adjustments that had to be made due to design oversight. Our overall lack of knowledge of SIPs and Superior Walls presented some challenges, as trying to fit the parts together resulted in a lot of creative problem solving by the designer, SIP provider, County Building Department, contractor and the owners. Overall, it was worth it as we love our house and all that it has to offer.

#### 8. Would you recommend this type of construction to others?

We are very pleased with our home. Of course, it is not for everyone due to the research and planning needed to put it all together. What we like most is that we will be living simply, in a small home that features everything we need (i.e., kitchen, living room, washer and dryer, shower and tub and toilet, office and bedroom all on one floor). Of course, the view, and the light, and the fact that the roof and porch overhangs help heat and cool the house is another bonus. Yes, this is a great way to build a home!

#### 9. Have you had the opportunity to be in the house during cold weather?

Yes! On the coldest of days our home is usually 15 to 20 degrees warmer inside than it is outside. We do have a wood stove installed on the main floor, and while

it takes a few hours to warm up the structure, when it gets warm, it is warm all over. It can be 24° outside and 74° inside in less than three hours, just heating with wood, and the house holds the heat very well. Once we warm up, we have to regulate the heat from the woodstove in order not to overheat the house, which is easy to do. On the Winter Solstice it was so fulfilling to see the sun reach 100% of the south facing windows; the passive gain that we get isn't much, but it certainly helps.



Inside corner of foundation

#### 10. Have you had any energy projections done for your home?

No energy projections have been done, but we did do some energy modeling which showed we would need very little HVAC assistance. If they made a one ton heat pump we would buy it, as the one and half ton is probably going to be a bit much. Our home has a passive solar "chimney" for summer cooling, and we are working on a mechanical "circulator" to help move around superheated air in the winter.

Mike and Marie's home is currently in the pre-drywall stage as they decide on a heating system that best suits their needs. We will be following their progress in future issues. If you have questions about green building or energy efficiency, please contact the Green Building Resource Center at 540-727-3444 x 387 or check out our website at www.culpepercounty.gov/gbrc



#### 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday Concert Series Summer 2011

The 10<sup>th</sup> annual **3rd Thursday Summer Concert Series**, sponsored by **Culpeper Renaissance**, **Inc.**, a downtown development organization, is quickly approaching. Join us in historic downtown Culpeper, directly in front of the Depot on Commerce Street, June 16, July 21, and August 18 from 5-9 p.m. for some great summer fun!



**The Beach Bumz—May 19**, a Jimmy Buffett Tribute and Beach Boys Tribute band, kicked off the series. Hailing from Baltimore, the Beach Bumz have performed all your favorite beach music from your favorite Beach Bands up and down the east coast. The Beach Bumz brought the sounds and excitement of a beach party to open the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday Summer Concert Series in Margaritaville, Culpeper.

The Fabulous Hubcaps—June 16, the festivities continue with one of the nation's most sought after oldies and rock show bands. In 2005, The Hubcaps were proudly inducted into The Southern Legends Entertainment and Performing Arts Hall of Fame. With an extensive repertoire of Do-Wop group harmony, Classic Rock and Roll, Rock-A-Billy, Motown, and R & B music, The Fabulous Hubcaps are heralded as one of the best oldies show bands in the country. This is one concert you will not want to miss!



The Fabulous Hubcaps

**Keith Bryant & IronHorse—July 21**, will hit the stage with an amazing and soulful sound. At age 19, Keith Bryant won Best Male Vocalist honors at the East Coast Country Music Championship. Keith embraced his talent and started Ironhorse band. Ironhorse traveled from club to club, city to city, conquering the South East and creating legions of devoted fans.



**The Worx—August** 18, join us for our final concert. Voted best local band for 2007 in Harrisonburg, Va., and for 2008 in Lynchburg, Va., The Worx, a unique combination of five talented and versatile musicians, consistently pleases a wide range of audiences with their enormous musical repertoire. The Worx perform modern and classic rock-n-roll covers as well as original material with such energetic enthusiasm that everyone will be on his/her feet for this final exciting show of the concert series. **Dance with us!** 



The gang's all here! C'mon down

Advance tickets for each of the concerts are available for \$5, and back by popular demand, 3rd Thursday Summer Concert Series Season Passes were sold for only \$15 (one concert for free). Advance tickets may be purchased up until the day before the event at the following locations: all StellarOne offices throughout Culpeper, Madison, Orange and Locust Grove, Randy's Flowers located at 211 West Evans Street, Pepperberries located at 102 East Davis Street, The Museum of Culpeper History at 803 South Main Street, and the Culpeper Renaissance office located at 127 West Davis Street. Individual concert admission is \$7 at the gate on the day of the event for those 21 and over.



All concerts begin at 5:00 pm and end at 9:00 pm. Food and beverages will be available for purchase, and a variety of FREE children's activities will also be offered. So bring friends, family & a lawn chair! All are welcome! Please remember no pets and no coolers, but picnic baskets are welcome! The 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday Summer Concert Series is made possible through the support of the Town of Culpeper; 92.5 WINC FM; CD's Amusements; Culpeper Media Network; Culpeper Times; Kid Central; Michele White graphics & marketing; Randy's Flowers; SpaceWalk of Fauquier County; Suites at 249; Virginia Eagle Distributing; and Virginia Regional Transit; Culpeper Farm Tour; Studio C Photography; and Chrysler of Culpeper.

Come and enjoy summer in picturesque downtown Culpeper with great times and the great sounds of **The Beach Bumz, The Fabulous Hubcaps, Keith Bryant & Ironhorse**, and **The Worx**.

For more information, please contact Culpeper Renaissance at (540) 825-4416 or crievents@culpeperdowntown.com or visit us on the web at <a href="www.culpeperdowntown.com">www.culpeperdowntown.com</a> and <a href="www.facebook.com/CRIDowntown">www.facebook.com/CRIDowntown</a>.

#### **Culpeper Receives Virginia Main Street Milestone Award**

- Culpeper Renaissance, Inc. (CRI) and the Town of Culpeper receive awards for Volunteer Investment, Building Renovations, and special recognition for the "Be a Culpeper Local" campaign - On Thursday, March 31, Culpeper Renaissance, Inc. (CRI) and the Town of Culpeper were presented with a Virginia Main Street Milestone Achievement Award for rehabilitating more than 250 buildings since being designated as a Main Street Community in 1988. Culpeper Renaissance, Inc. received an award for 25,000 volunteer hours invested in the district since 1997, and special recognition for the "Be a Culpeper Local" campaign.

At a ceremony focused on the results of Main Street efforts, Virginia Deputy Secretary of Commerce and Trade for Rural Development, Mary Rae Carter, spoke to the audience of 95 downtown revitalization volunteers and professionals about the visible results of their leadership. "You are creating places where people want to be," she said. "And you've often been at the forefront of community and economic development, from your early promotion of farmers' markets to advocating for walkable and liveable downtowns."

Culpeper's historic commercial district fits that description, and CRI continues to lead in innovative strategies to strengthen the position of the district economically and in the hearts of residents. The *Be a Culpeper Local* campaign was recognized as an example of a well-crafted and implemented strategy encouraging residents to shop locally to support the community. For more information on the campaign visit: www.beaculpeperlocal.com.

At the ceremony, Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development Director Bill Shelton pointed to downtown progress through the numbers. "In the last five years, Designated Main Street Communities have sparked more than \$275 million in private investment in their districts," said Shelton. "As a result, last year there was a net collective gain of 663 jobs across the 21 Main Street downtown districts." Preservationist Jean Carroon, FAIA, LEED AP, author of the book, **Sustainable Preservation: Greening Existing Buildings** emphasized the impacts of the group's work in the sustainability of their communities. "People often forget that before we recycle, we can reduce consumption and reuse existing products," said Carroon. "A building is one of the largest handmade objects we have. Reusing a building has an environmental impact far greater than recycling an aluminum can."

For more information about the Virginia Main Street program, call (804) 371-7030 or visit: <a href="https://www.dhcd.virginia.gov/MainStreet">www.dhcd.virginia.gov/MainStreet</a>



Elana Clements, CRI Board Treasurer, and Jessica Brewer, CRI Manager, receive Special Recognition Award for **Be a Culpeper Local** campaign, from Virginia Deputy Secretary of Commerce and Trade for Rural Development, Mary Rae Carter.

The Virginia Main Street program, managed by the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development, provides assistance and training to help communities increase the economic vitality of their downtown commercial districts. Virginia Main Street uses the National Main Street model to help communities revitalize their downtowns by focusing on their unique heritage and attributes. Currently there are 21 designated Virginia Main Street communities. The program helps communities implement a comprehensive revitalization strategy that creates economic growth and pride in downtowns.



Culpeper Attendees at the Virginia Main Street Milestone Achievement Awards (from left to right): Culpeper Town Councilmember David Lochridge, Councilmember Bobby Ryan, Virginia Main Street Program Manager Jeff Sadler, CRI Board members Michele White, Michael Lysczek, Elana Clements, Jonathan Krawchuk, CRI Manager Jessica Brewer, and Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development Director Bill Shelton.

#### A Taste of Summer! Culpeper Downtown Farmers Market is OPEN!

The Culpeper Downtown Farmers Market sponsored by Culpeper Renaissance, Inc. announces the 2011 season. The Market is open every Saturday through November 19 from 7:30 a.m. until noon at the East Davis Street and Commerce Street parking lot in historic downtown Culpeper. CRI president, Trez Holmes states "Culpeper Renaissance's goal is to enhance community life in downtown Culpeper by bringing residents and local growers together in a market setting that is friendly, fun and packed full of quality local products."

Be certain to stop by the Market to pick up locally grown produce while supporting regional farmers. Tom Henneman will return for another busy season as the Market Manager. Tom has created an exciting atmosphere with local musicians playing in the background while familiar faces peruse the Market in search of fresh seasonal produce, plants, cheeses, and meats. Local artists display handmade arts and crafts for all to enjoy.

The Market has grown to more than 40 participants for this season. There is no doubt that the Culpeper Downtown Farmers Market has become a destination on Saturday mornings, creating quite an attraction for the downtown district. Stroll through the Market for locally grown fruit, vegetables, herbs, vibrant flowers, delicious baked goods, farm fresh eggs, and much more. Buy Fresh! Buy Local! You'll be amazed by what's around! For more information please contact Culpeper Renaissance at 540-825-4416 or visit our website at <a href="https://www.culpeperdowntown.com">www.culpeperdowntown.com</a> Become a fan of Culpeper Renaissance on Facebook at <a href="https://www.facebook.com/CRIDowntown">www.facebook.com/CRIDowntown</a> to check out the latest offerings and information on the Market.

#### CulpeperFest by Jim Charapich

This is our 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary for CulpeperFest. We began in 1982 at Mountain Run



Lake. The event has had an interesting path of locations throughout Culpeper, including the Agricultural Coop grounds along Route 29, The HITS Horse competition facility, and the greenhouses on the Gyory Farm, to name a few. We are very fortunate to continue our Community event this year at the Germanna's Daniel Technology Center.

We are often teased about the weather conditions at CulpeperFest. The first Thursday in June seems to be a pivotal time for weather transition from spring to summer. We have always made the most of it. The spirit of CulpeperFest seems to shine through any Under the tent—lots of activities weather. We have not officially placed our order for the weather yet this year. How-



ever, I am confident that it will not matter. The outcome is always the same. Everyone has a great time.



Culpeper neighbors meet out on the lawn

We have made a few changes this year. We have lowered the ticket price. We know that the economy has made it a bit tough for some. We will have Kitchen Gourmet catering the food. Sean will have his barbeque ready. I can't wait to smell the open grill fired up at the event. Everyone loves the smell of an open grill. We will also have the Trolley, giving rides from the parking area to the festival.

As we all know, CulpeperFest is a mix of Business Expo and Community reunion. We have stories every year of how people reconnect at CulpeperFest. Life is busy and these times are precious. We have decided to allow Chamber member businesses which have booths, to sell items at CulpeperFest. I am looking forward to seeing the many deals that may be available from our local businesses. This is one of the best ways to connect with your local businesses.

You will find new businesses as well as new things at the businesses where you regularly shop.

Our businesses love to see you all at CulpeperFest. We will make this year one of the best ever. Get your ticket early. Check with the Chamber office to find out if there are special benefits for buying tickets early. Hint... Tickets are available at the Depot/Culpeper Chamber of Commerce Office. We also offer online purchase at www.CulpeperFest.com

There is always something new and exciting to see, experience, or benefit from, and our 30<sup>th</sup> Year will be lots of fun. The food is amazing, and the fellowship, unique. I hope to see you all on June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4:30 PM at the Germanna's Daniel Technology Center. You can also find CulpeperFest on Facebook and Twitter; after all, this is a social event...



Friends of all shapes and sizes



The mission of Culpeper Soil and Water Conservation District is to promote the stewardship of soil and water and the conservation of our natural resources by educating and providing technical assistance to manage, protect, and enhance the land and water for the benefit and enjoyment of the citizens of Culpeper, Greene, Madison, Orange and Rappahannock counties.

Culpeper County is represented on the Culpeper Soil & Water Conservation District Board by Directors Thomas O'Halloran, Laura Campbell and Jocelyn Lampert.

#### Culpeper County and Eastern View High School Teams Compete in Environmental Science Competition



**Culpeper County High School Envirothon Team—**Brittany Carter, Hannah Hayes, Joy Nystrom, Eric Owen and R. M. Thomas Sieber.

On Wednesday March 16, with a backdrop of Lenn Park near Stevensburg, the Culpeper Soil and Water Conservation District held its 2011 Local Envirothon Competition.

Four teams competed: Culpeper County High School, Eastern View High School, Orange County High School and Wakefield Country Day School. The teams competed in the fields of aquatics, forestry, estuaries, soils, and wildlife and each gave a 20-minute presentation on actions to meet the 2-year milestones in the Chesapeake Bay TMDL, or pollution diet. Total scores are as follows: Eastern View High School 550.818; Wakefield Country Day School 463.808; Culpeper County High School 393.801; and Orange County High School 371.642.

With these scores, the Eastern View and Wakefield teams competed in the Area II Competition on April 13 at C.M. Crockett Park in Fauquier County.

The Eastern View High School team is coached by Leslie Jones and Janice Mayhugh. The team members are: Gwyneth McKenna, Cody Phelps, Alex Ramey, Richela Rosales and Billy Tobin.

The Culpeper County High School team, coached by Lisa Giza, competed in the Envirothon competition for the first time. Team members are: Brittany Carter, Hannah Hayes, Joy Nystrom, Eric Owen and R.M. Thomas Sieber. The team members are already developing strategies for next year.

Envirothon features five "in-the-field" test stations – soils, wildlife, aquatics, forestry and a current environmental issue – where teams answer questions in both written and hands-on formats. During an oral presentation teams propose a management solution related to the current environmental issue to a panel of judges consisting of industry and natural resource professionals. This year's issue was "Fresh and Saltwater Estuaries."

For updates on the teams' progress, visit <u>www.culpeperswcd.org</u> and click on Envirothon or What's New.

The Culpeper Soil and Water Conservation District needs help sponsoring students for next year's Envirothon. If you can help, or would like to know more about starting an Envirothon team at your high school through 4-H, FFA, Ecology Club or home school group, contact Stephanie DeNicola at Culpeper Soil and Water Conservation District at (540) 825-8591 or <a href="mailto:Stephanie.DeNicola@va.nacdnet.net">Stephanie.DeNicola@va.nacdnet.net</a>.

Envirothon is sponsored by the Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts and Virginia's 47 Soil and Water Conservation Districts with funding provided by the Virginia Manufacturers Association Outreach Group, The Chesapeake Bay Restoration Fund, The Virginia Chapter of Soil and Water Conservation Society and the Canon Envirothon.



**Eastern View High School Envirothon Team—**Gwyneth McKenna, Cody Phelps, Alex Ramey, Richela Rosales and Billy Tobin.

## Help Available for Septic System Pumping, Repair & Replacement

Culpeper County residents in the Hazel River Watershed may be eligible for 50-75% cost-share to maintain, repair or replace their septic systems. To find out if you are in the Hazel River watershed call the District office at 540-825-8591.

For more information about lawn care, best management practices, reporting pollution, moving dirt and other issues regarding soil and water conservation please contact Stephanie Rose DeNicola, Communications Specialist of Culpeper Soil & Water Conservation District at (540) 825-8591.



#### REGIONAL ADULT EDUCATION

CULPEPER, MADISON, ORANGE & RAPPAHANNOCK COUNTIES

Many adults who did not complete a high school program of instruction have continued to learn through a variety of experience encountered in everyday life. The purpose of the GED® Testing Program is to provide an opportunity for these individuals to have the learning acquired from such educational experiences evaluated and recognized. The GED Tests make it possible for qualified individuals to earn a high school credential, thus providing opportunities for hundreds of thousands of adults to:

- Pursue higher education
- Obtain jobs or job promotions
- Achieve personal goals

#### WHAT ARE THE GED TESTS?

The Tests of General Education Development (GED Tests) are internationally recognized. They have been designed to measure major academic skills and knowledge in core content areas that are learned during four years of high school. When an adult passes the 7  $\frac{1}{2}$  hour GED Tests battery, the resulting GED credential certifies that he or she has attained subject matter knowledge and skills associated with high school completion. The GED Tests battery includes the following subject area tests:

- Language Arts, Writing
- Social Studies
- Social StiScience
- Language Arts, Reading
- Mathematics

The GED Tests are offered in English and Spanish editions.

GED Testing Schedule for Summer 2011
Denise S. Vogt, Chief Examiner

June 9 & 25, 2011 July 23 & 25, 2011 August 13 & 15, 2011

You need to register 10 days before the test date. Reasonable accommodations are available upon request, for individuals who qualify. The Culpeper Annex is open to take your GED application Monday – Friday 8:30 A.M.—4:30 P.M. Additionally, we are open late on Monday and Thursday evenings until 8:00 P.M.

Piedmont Regional Adult & Continuing Education Programs
WE'VE MOVED! to Culpeper Annex
14270 Achievement Drive, Room 200
Culpeper, VA 22701

#### **Piedmont Regional Adult Education**

(540) 829-9914

Register for Adult Classes in your area for GED Preparation, or ESOL (English Speakers of Other Languages). Work on your reading, writing and math skills for GED and speaking skills for ESOL. Call (540) 829-9914 for information.

Culpeper GED – 5:30 PM – 8:00 PM/Tues, & Thurs. Culpeper Annex, Culpeper, VA

Culpeper/Rappahannock ESOL – English As A Second Language 6:30 PM – 9:00 PM/Tues. & Thurs./ Health & Human Resources Culpeper, VA & Farmington Elementary ESOL 6:00 PM – 8:30 PM/Tues. & Thurs, Culpeper, VA

Morning ESOL – 9:15 AM – 11:45 AM/Mon. & Wed. Virginia Community Bank, Culpeper, VA

Fast Track Class – 5:30 PM – 8:00 PM/Mon. & Wed. Culpeper Annex, Culpeper, VA.

 $\begin{tabular}{ll} Literacy Council of Madison GED - 9:30 AM - 12:00 Noon/Tues. \& Thurs. \\ Madison Literacy Council, Madison, VA \\ \end{tabular}$ 

Literacy Council of Madison GED  $-6:30\ PM-9:00\ PM/Mon.\ \&\ Wed.$  Madison Literacy Council, Madison, VA

Gordonsville GED – 6:30 PM – 9:00 PM/Mon. & Thurs. Gordon-Barbour Elem. Library, Gordonsville, VA

Head Start ESOL – 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM/Mon. & Wed. Prospect Heights Annex, Orange, VA

Orange GED – 6:30 PM – 9:00 PM/Mon. & Wed. Taylor Educational Administrative Complex, Orange, VA

Orange GED – 9:00 AM – 11:30 A.M./Mon. & Thurs. Orange Presbyterian Church, Orange, VA.

Rappahannock GED – 4:30 PM – 6:30 PM/Mon. & Thurs. Rappahannock High School, Washington, VA

#### Rappahannock-Rapidan

#### Meet Your Neighbor, Volunteer with RRMRC



Volunteers protecting local public health

RRMRC volunteers are all around you. We currently have 435 volunteers registered with the RRMRC. These volunteers provide many services for the community. They assist in flu vaccination clinics and

work with schools to complete Body Mass Index Studies: weighing, measuring and entering data. RRMRC volunteers play the part of patients in drills and exercises. They staff display tables at many health, community and preparedness fairs. In addition, RRMRC volunteers attend trainings so they will be better prepared to assist you in an emergency.

Do you have a health, community or emergency preparedness fair you would like the RRMRC to participate in? Would your work, school, business or church group benefit from a

presentation on Emergency Preparedness? Contact the RRMRC at 540-829-7350 x132 or by e-mail at rrmrc@vdh.virginia.gov

Summertime will be here soon. Please remember to use sunscreen to protect your skin and that of your children. In warm weather it is especially important to drink plenty of water. Check for ticks after being outdoors in the yard or woods. If you find ticks on yourself, remove them properly.

Are you interested in becoming a volunteer with the Rappahannock-Rapidan Medical Reserve Corps and learning about public health and emergency preparedness? Would you like to help people in your community? Go to <a href="http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/mrc/rrmrc/">http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/mrc/rrmrc/</a> to sign up today or call the RRMRC at 540-829-7350 x132 for more information.

Come out and learn more about the MRC at the Eagle Scout Emergency Preparedness Fair at Latter Day Saints Church on Willow Lawn Drive in Culpeper between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. on May 28, and the Orange County Health Fair on June 16.

# Social Security Administration

# SECUPLE SECUPL

#### ELECTRONIC PAYMENTS ARE A MUST by Nancy Davis-Dungee, Social Security District Manager

For years, Social Security has stressed the convenience, security, and safety of getting benefit payments electronically. Soon, direct deposit (or Direct Express) will not only be the best way to receive Federal benefit payments — it will be the only way.

That's because the U.S. Department of the Treasury announced a new rule that will phase out paper checks for Federal benefit and non-tax payments by March 1, 2013. Here is how the transition will work.

- Anyone applying for Social Security or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits on or after May 1, 2011, will receive their payments electronically, while those already receiving paper checks will need to switch to electronic payments by March 1, 2013.
- Anyone already receiving their benefit payments electronically will continue to receive their payment as usual on their payment day.
- People receiving benefits have the option of direct deposit to a bank or credit union account (of their choice) or into a Direct Express<sup>®</sup> Debit MasterCard® card account (a Treasury-recommended prepaid card option). You can visit <a href="https://www.GoDirect.org">www.GoDirect.org</a> to learn more.
- Social Security, SSI, Veterans Affairs, Railroad Retirement Board, Office of Personnel Management benefits, and other non-tax payments are included.

For most people getting monthly benefits, this won't really be a change. Already 8 out of 10 beneficiaries receive payments electronically.

Why the push for electronic payments instead of paper checks received in the mail?

- It's safer: no risk of checks being lost or stolen;
- It's easy and reliable: no need to wait for the mail or go to the bank to cash a check;
- It saves taxpayers money: no cost for postage and paper and printing;
- It saves you money: no check-cashing fees or bank fees; and
- It's good for the environment: it saves paper and eliminates transportation costs.

If you still get your check in the mail, you don't need to wait for the new rule to go into effect to enjoy the benefits of electronic payments. Please visit <a href="www.godirect.org">www.godirect.org</a> today and begin getting your Social Security and SSI payments the safe, easy, inexpensive, and green way — electronically.

#### **Department of Animal Services**

**Livestock Control**—Spring is just around the corner and with it comes an increase in the number of livestock calls that our Department receives.

Loose livestock is a safety hazard which can cause vehicle accidents. Accidents can subject the owner of the livestock not only to the loss of their livestock, but also to liability for the damage to the vehicle and persons driving it. This is not a situation you want to find yourself in, especially with the economy as it is now.

The Culpeper County Department of Animal Services can help. We understand that livestock can get loose every once in awhile, and when that happens, we would love to be able to contact you so you can get your animals back in their field before they cause any damage. Over the years, our officers have compiled a list of livestock owners along with emergency telephone numbers. We categorize these numbers by areas of the County. When we receive a call regarding livestock in the road, we immediately search our list for a possible owner. We contact and inform the owner that his/her livestock have escaped, so he or she can round up the animals. Should our Department not be able to locate the owner of the livestock, we have to respond to the scene and either round up the livestock, put them back in their field, or have someone come and pick them up and take them to a holding area. The owner is then responsible for the hauling charges and boarding charges, in addition to any cost associated with the damages their livestock may have caused. If our

OWNER OF LIVESTOCK	
TYPE OF LIVESTOCK:	
CATTLE HORSES SHEEP GO	OATS PIGS OTHER
AREAS IN WHICH LIVESTOCK ARE KEPT:	
EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS:	
PERSON(S) TO CONTACT:	
DAY PHONE:	EVE. PHONE:
WEEKENDS & HOLIDAYS:	
PERSON(S) TO CONTACT:	
DAY PHONE:	EVE. PHONE:
WEEKENDS & HOLIDAYS:	
PERSON(S) TO CONTACT:	
DAY PHONE:	EVE. PHONE:
WEEKENDS & HOLIDAYS:	

Department must respond numerous times for the same livestock, the owner is then subject to a fine.

Our goal is to make sure we can contact you should your livestock escape. Please



your livestock | Help us keep your cattle grazing peacefully in their own fields

fill out the form and mail it or drop it by the Culpeper County Animal Shelter, 10144 James Monroe Hwy., Culpeper, VA 22701. Rest assured that your information will be kept under the strictest confidence and will only be used to contact you should your livestock escape. Be sure to include all areas of the County that your livestock may graze and another contact person should you be out of town. If we already have your information, please be sure to update us on any changes. If you have any questions, feel free to contact our office at 540-547-4477. We are here to answer any animal-related question you may have.

#### **Shelter News!**

Want to know what is going on at the Animal Shelter? Be sure to check out our website for up-to-date information regarding upcoming low-cost spay/neuter clinics, rabies clinics or any other news or services that may be available through the Culpeper County Animal Shelter. Please be sure to check it out by going to <a href="https://www.culpepercounty.gov">www.culpepercounty.gov</a> and clicking on County Government, then Animal Services.

#### Check out our new "Animal Finder" on the web!

We are pleased to announce that our website has a wonderful addition, "Animal Finder"! You can now see all of the animals at the Animal Shelter by visiting our website. Should you lose your pet, or if you are looking for a new addition to the family, be sure to check it out. Animal Finder enables you to browse all of the animals at the Shelter or search for a particular breed. There are photos of the animal, along with a description and any pertinent information regarding the animal. It is updated as new animals come in or when animals are adopted. Please be sure to check it out by going to <a href="https://www.culpepercounty.gov">www.culpepercounty.gov</a> and clicking on "Animal Finder."

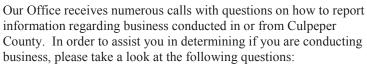
Culpeper County Animal Shelter 10144 James Monroe Highway Culpeper, VA 22701 540-547-4477



### Office of the Commissioner of the Revenue

**Terry Yowell** 

# ARE YOU CONDUCTING BUSINESS IN OR FROM CULPEPER COUNTY?



- 1. Do you receive income for providing a good or service from a source other than an employer?
- 2. Do you receive a *Miscellaneous Income State-ment 1099* from a source, other than an employer, for which you have provided a good or service?
- 3. Do you file a *Schedule C* (Business Profit or Loss) as part of your Federal Income Tax Return?



If you answer "yes" to any of the questions above, you may be considered conducting business. To assist you in complying with state and local tax law, we need you to register your business with our Office. For your convenience, a registration form is herein provided. Please complete the form and return to the Commissioner of the Revenue Office. You may also obtain a form online by visiting our website <a href="http://web.culpepercounty.gov/CountyGovernment/">http://web.culpepercounty.gov/CountyGovernment/</a> CommissioneroftheRevenue or by email, mail or fax.



We will use this information to create a file for your business. Each year, a Return of Business Personal Property and Machinery & Tools will be mailed to you using the most current mailing information we have on record. This form is where and how you declare

property used in your business for the purpose of local property taxation. Any time you receive a request for information from the Commissioner of the Revenue, please respond. Even if you believe the request for information does not apply to you, please contact this Office. If we have information on file which indicates you may be conducting business, AND we do not hear from you, you may be subject to a statutory assessment (which will generate a tax bill) using the best information we have on file.

The reason your property is assessed for local taxation is because of Virginia law. According to the <u>Code of Virginia</u> §58.1-3503, all property that is owned or leased and all tangible personal property used in a trade or business is subject to taxation.

My goal, as your Commissioner of the Revenue, is to assist all new and existing businesses to comply with state and local taxation laws. The only way you can be sure that you are in compliance is if you file with this Office. The only way that I can be sure that your business is being assessed fairly and equitably is if you file with this Office. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the taxation of business personal property, or machinery & tools used in manufacturing, please contact this Office for assistance.



## CULPEPER COUNTY COMMISSIONER OF THE REVENUE BUSINESS REGISTRATION FORM

TERRY L. YOWELL, MCR PO BOX 1807 151 N MAIN ST, SUITE 201 CULPEPER VA 22701 PHONE: (540) 727-3443 FAX: (540) 727-3472

To register your business with Culpeper County, please complete and return this form to the Commissioner's Office.

Business Start Date in Cuipeper:
Business Name:
Physical Address of Business:
Mailing Address of Business:
Phone Number of Business: ()
Nature of Business:
Please Check One:
Sole ProprietorPartnershipLLCIncorporatedOther (explain):
Federal Identification Number:
Social Security Number:
Contact Person(s) & Phone Number(s):
CONSENT TO RECEIVE AND RELEASE:  I,(business owner) hereby authorize
as my agent/representative to receive and release confidential information
related to my business account unless and until revoked in writing to the Commissioner of the Revenue.
I declare that the foregoing information is true, complete and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.
Signature Date

Terry L. Yowell
Commissioner of the Revenue
PO Box 1807
151 N Main Street, Suite 201
Culpeper VA 22701
phone: 540-727-3443 fax: 540-727-3472

tyowell@culpepercounty.gov

The Culpeper County Commissioner's Office is pleased to offer online public access services at www.culpepercounty.gov

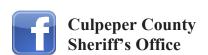
#### **CULPEPER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

110 W. Cameron St. Culpeper, Va. 22701

Main Line: (540) 727-7520 / Emergency: 911

**Records Office:** (540) 727 -3400 / **Crime Tips:** (540) 727 - 0300

Find agency information online 24 hours a day: <u>culpepersheriffsoffice.com</u>







Sheriff Jim Branch Jr.

# CPR and First Aid certifications among new additions to 2011 Citizens Academy

The Culpeper Citizens' Joint Criminal Justice Academy is a 12-week program introducing residents to the inner workings of the Sheriff's Office, Town Police and Commonwealth Attorney's Office. Classes cover topics on operations, investigations, court security, communications and special teams; CPR and First Aid certifications are now included. In addition, a handgun safety course is part of the program. The certificate from this training can be used to apply for a concealed weapons permit. Application information is on the CCSO website under "Citizens Academy." Applications for the fall session should be notarized and mailed to Deputy Maria Rodriguez, 110 West Cameron St., Culpeper, VA 22701.

# Golfers encouraged to sign up for annual golf tournament in August



For information on the Sheriff's annual golf tournament in August, contact Deputy Billy Wayland at (540) 718-5003.

Proceeds from the tournament go to the shop-with-a-cop event in December. Every year local children in need are paired with law enforcement officers to buy presents during the holiday season. Deputies and officers from the Sheriff's Office, Culpeper Town Police Department and Virginia State Police participate in the event.

Individuals and teams are encouraged to sign up early for the tournament.

Have you become physically and/or verbally abusive to your spouse or significant other?

Help is available.

Contact Culpeper County Criminal Justice Services at 540-727-3450 for referral to a treatment provider.

# Culpeper Minutes

A quarterly publication



dhoffman@culpepercounty.gov

The Administration Building ♦ 302 North Main Street Culpeper, VA 22701

#### The Omega Partnership

#### Mentoring and Guidance to Community Resources for Independent Living

**The Omega Partnership**—offers financial resourcing and a one-on-one approach to solving the problem causing persons to be in a distressed situation. The Omega Partnership goes beyond simply providing real and immediate financial solutions or connecting the person in need with the available help. We feel strongly that when assisting an individual, it isn't just the monetary solution they need, but someone to help them look back at where the problem began, seek a way to correct that problem and make a plan to move in a positive direction. Sometimes due to loss of job or home, sometimes due to loss of income provider…people in distress need help learning how to take positive steps to become successfully independent.

When existing community and governmental assistance programs or traditional resources can no longer provide help, The Omega Partnership steps in with immediate assistance followed by mentoring relationships with the individuals in need, providing coaching in life skills to equip them to craft innovative means for managing their difficulties. Mentors can help with reaching solutions such as negotiating creative payment schedules with landlords, teaching budgeting skills, and fostering habits that reduce daily living costs.

Resources and assistance are provided to anyone in need, the homeless, single parents, families in crisis -- anyone who could benefit from a helping hand to enable them to resume independence and restore their ability for self-sufficiency. The Omega Partnership provides Christian social work in the form of full and expanded assistance, connecting the less fortunate in Culpeper County and the surrounding areas with various community and civic resources to provide desperately needed financial, medical and mentoring assistance.



**The Board of The Omega Partnership**—Michael Gray, Jeanie Raven, Lanny Horton, Eleanor James, Randall Robinson, and Derek McFarland, with County Administrator, Frank Bossio

**The Omega Partnership**— is newly established to meet increasing demands on our program which has been run by volunteers on a part-time basis. Board members include Michael Gray, Lanny Horton, Eleanor James, Derek McFarland and Randall Robinson. Jeanie Raven is Executive Director.

The Omega Partnership works with the Department of Human Resources and is seeking donations and grants to support expanding day-to-day operations and to meet the growing needs within the Piedmont area. To learn more about The Omega Partnership please contact Jeanie Raven at 540-423-4443 or at jeanier4@yahoo.com.